

## WASHINGTON.

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1874.

## Morton's Plan for Protection of the Louisiana Monstrosity—How Kellogg May Dictate a Judicial Decision of the Election Question.

In opposition to a new election in Louisiana Senator Morton to-morrow proposes to refer the matter to the Supreme Court of the State, to decide on questions of title to office, and alleges that in this there is a sufficient corrective and resort for the evils complained of in the present State government. To show that this is an inadequate remedy, he will remind the Senate that under article 81 of the constitution of Louisiana the Legislature can, by a vote, without trial and without charges, turn the Judges of the Supreme Court out of office whenever their decisions shall displease the General Assembly—in other words, the Supreme Court, the tribunal relied upon by Mr. Morton to adjust upon equitable terms the conflicting interests of the State at issue, is the creature and perfectly at the mercy of the *de facto* Legislature, one of the parties litigant in the present imbroglio, and said Court for the purposes proposed is utterly worthless and unreliable. Again, Mr. Morton will allege that the election of the General Assembly in November next will solve the political difficulties of Louisiana, by affording the people an opportunity to elect a General Assembly that will represent their views. This proposition is regarded by those familiar with Louisiana politics as a delusion and sham, inasmuch as Governor Kellogg, under the present election law, appoints the Supervisors of Registration and removes them at pleasure, and appoints also the police juries of the several parishes or counties, who in turn designate the judges of election, and thus Kellogg controls the whole election machinery of the State, and can control in perpetuity under the existing law the election of the General Assembly, so that neither the Supreme Court nor a new election under the supervision of the *de facto* government would furnish a remedy for existing evils or secure a free expression of the popular will. Evidently the only help for the people of Louisiana is from without, as, if evils and wrongs have originated under a federal statute and by a force foreign and outside State authorities, the only remedy for the present exceptional and deplorable state of affairs is to be found in federal intervention in the interest of the people of the State, so far as not to establish a new government, but to enable the people to establish by ballot a government that shall represent fairly a majority of the suffragists of the State. To this complexion the matter has come. Congress must remit according to the constitution the question of State government to the constituents interested, or else assume the responsibility of fattening the Louisiana monstrosity and thus fostering a villainy that will destroy the republican party, if it does not as an established precedent strike down the integrity of our institutions.

## Louisiana's Depreciation of a New Election Under Congressional Decree—Let the People of the State Right Their Own Wrongs.

Ex-Governor Hebert, of Louisiana, who is now in Washington as the representative of the levee interests of Louisiana and the Mississippi Valley, has written a letter to Senator Bayard, of Delaware, deprecating Congressional interference in the affairs of Louisiana. After briefly reciting the wrongs imposed upon the people of his State in the name of so-called political liberty, he says:—"A new election cannot right any of the wrongs complained of. There is no doubt that great outrage was committed in the judicial proceedings by which the present government of Louisiana was installed, but what is now proposed is for Congress to commit another wrong and convulse the State with a new election. This is a grave proposition, seriously affecting the rights of all the States under the constitution. While it might accomplish an end of temporary expediency, it would set a precedent under which elections in the States could constantly be meddled with by Congress. *Quid bono?* Examine the practical results of this legislation. An election, if ordered now, could not well take place before the month of June—at a season of crisis in crops and at a time when thousands of white people leave the State. The constitution of Louisiana provides for a new election in November of the members of the Legislature. The old one adjourns on the 4th of March. If there is a new election to right the people of Louisiana can right them under their own constitution and laws in November, which will answer all the practical purposes of an election in May or June under a Congressional interference. If Governor Kellogg has, in the judgment of the people, behaved improperly, the constitution of the State authorizes a majority of the House of Representatives to impeach and suspend him from office, and so with the other State officers. All the grievances complained of can be settled under the State constitution, without involving the dangerous and expensive means of a new election ordered by Congress. I have presented you these views as a democrat, a native and a citizen of Louisiana, deeply interested in her prosperity and welfare. I know the interests of my State cannot be promoted at this juncture by interference by Congress in order for a new election."

## Judge Durell Intends to Resign and Save the Party.

It is understood that Senators Morton and West have, on behalf of the President, written a letter to Judge Durell urging him to tender his resignation at once and relieve the republican party of the odium which is being daily heaped upon it by the revival of the fune and scandalous conduct in establishing the Kellogg government in Louisiana. E. B. Norton, the universal assignee in bankruptcy under Durell, and by his appointment, will not consent to a resignation unless he can control the succession, and threatens damaging developments in case the impeachment investigation proceeds. If Judge Norton in harmony with Norton should be appointed, multiple suits against Norton for extortion, fraud and damages would be instituted, and his ill-gotten gains of a million or more as assignee in bankruptcy would be dissipated in adverse judgments and costs. Durell stands firm because Norton dies hard. A pretty pance it is that a great party has its integrity threatened and its success jeopardized by the selfish diplomacy of one of its corrupt members. It can be stated that he President will not, under any consideration, accede to dalliance with the truculent assignee in bankruptcy, either as to the question of resignation or succession. It is credibly reported that General Butler says that Durell, the catspaw used by Kellogg, in establishing the usurpation known as the *de facto* government, must bear the blame of the money that used him. In other words, the

purpose in administration circles is pronounced that Durell is to be the scapegoat to bear the sins of omission and commission of the republican party in the Louisiana case.

The public demands a sacrifice that the outrages committed may be atoned for, and Judge Durell, personally opprobrious and unpopular and having outlived his party utility, is the most available offering. It is understood that Pinchback is at hand as a supplementary offering to meet the demands of Senator Morton and to vindicate the integrity of the Senate for his unanimous and miscellaneous advocacy of the Louisiana monstrosity.

## Reported Correspondence Between Don Carlos and His Friends in Cuba—Memorandum of an Agreement to Sell the Island if He Gain the Throne of Spain.

It is reported in diplomatic circles that Don Carlos is in active correspondence with influential friends, resident in Cuba, to secure their aid in his behalf, and that they are promptly advised of every movement relative to his ultimate success. In explanation of the statement recently made, that Don Carlos succeeds he will favor the sale of Cuba to the United States, it is said that on the 18th of December last a conference was held in Brunswick Hotel, London, by prominent European diplomats, at which it was agreed, after much deliberation, to prepare a memorandum on the policy Don Carlos should follow toward Cuba in the event of his triumph. It began by stating that the Austrian cause was making such headway in Spanish politics that before three months should have passed the son of Isabella, the Prince of Asturias might be crowned King at Madrid. The only way to counteract the Isabella party, it was represented, was for Don Carlos, first, to raise money, and, secondly, to enlist active foreign sympathies to his aid. This, it was indicated, would be done by a royal proclamation, which would declare the abolition of slavery in Cuba and express the consent of Spain to leave the island free to provide for herself. In order to secure the support of the slaveholding interest it was further indicated that Cuba, after she by a popular vote should have agreed to it, might be sold to the United States, with the understanding that the sum received would constitute a compensatory fund for the former slaveholders; and if the United States did not want to annex the island, it was indicated that the newly formed Republic of Cuba, as a payment for her granted freedom, would guarantee a compensation from her own treasury to the former slaveholders.

This memorandum was sent immediately to Don Carlos, and a copy despatched by the Pretender to his allies in Havana for their approval. At the time the conference was held the Virginian affair was settled, without having practically advanced the cause of emancipation, no more than it had been done by the proclamations of Castelar and other prominent Madrid republicans. The Serrano matter was fully settled, as shown in the first of the telegrams from Madrid and London, and it was thought to be good policy, therefore, to maneuver so that a formal promise of abolition and of the Cuban autonomy should be drawn from Don Carlos, in case he should succeed in his effort to win the Spanish throne. It is believed here by those claiming to be well advised of the Carlist movement that Don Carlos has assented to the suggestions indicated in the memorandum and only awaits the advice of his Cuban supporters as to its practicability. In the preparation of the document advice was sought of Americans well versed in the policy of the United States government, and it was represented that, if Castelar could not maintain a republican form of government, our policy was to secure from whatever party might be in power such reforms in Cuba as would portend lasting peace on the island and more favorable commercial facilities to the United States.

## The Proposed Repeal of the Pre-emption Laws—Probable Disposal of All the Public Lands Within a Century—New Provisions to Prevent Fraud and Speculation.

The Committee on Public Lands of the House of Representatives, in a recent report say that, notwithstanding the late report of the Commissioner of Public Lands it appears that there have been 1,200,000 acres yet unsurveyed. It is the opinion of the Commissioner, as shown in his letter of February 13, 1874, to Senator Stewart, and of Mr. Julian, a late chairman of the committee, with great knowledge thereof, that the whole arable land remaining, after deducting mountains, alkaline plains, sand and sage deserts, swamps and shoals, railroad grants, &c., cannot exceed 350,000,000 to 400,000,000 acres. There were taken up by homestead entries alone last year nearly 4,000,000 acres, and, as our population increases, this yearly rate must be maintained, and, as so many a year that, in less than a century (a short period in the history of a nation), the whole arable land of the government will be absorbed by settlers. As this absorption progresses the remaining lands will become more valuable and more the object of the desire of speculators. Although it has been the beneficent intention of these laws to afford cheap homes to the people, yet both laws, and especially that which allows pre-emption, have been perverted from their original design, and have been obtained by large areas of land and hold them unimproved, and in some cases the lands are in such a state of neglect that the neighboring improvements of industrious settlers may enhance their value and afford a profitable sale. In a limited degree the same abuses have grown up under the present Homestead law. To correct these abuses, to insure to every one who wants it a home, to prevent frauds on the national government, and to bring under improvement the public lands, and to add to the wealth of the States and the nation, is the object of the bill reported by the committee. It repeals the pre-emption laws, except that it allows inchoate titles under them to be completed according to their provisions. It also substitutes for the present Homestead law, the entirely new one, retaining all the best features of the existing law, and adding others that the experience of the working of that law seemed to require. It does not interfere with the Soldiers and Sailors' Homestead law. Its new features are as follows:—It requires actual settlement and cultivation for five years, after which, on due proof thereof, the settler can obtain a title to 160 acres of land, the whole cost of which will be \$10 on entry of the land and \$5 on final proof. If, however, the settler wishes to obtain a title earlier than in five years he can do so at the end of eighteen months on payment of the minimum price of the land. The bill exempts "pine lands," with mineral, coal and saline lands, heretofore exempted, in order to save vast tracts of valuable pine timber to the government that are now destroyed under the present laws without insuring settlement or cultivation. It extends to minor heirs, at the death of their parents, the right to continue the parents' settlement with the consent of the guardian, and allows widows, after settlement and before entry, to make entry in their own name. It provides for the determination of controversies, where two or more persons have settled on the same quarter section or smaller legal subdivision; also that vacancies in the office of register or receiver shall not prejudice claimants as to any matter necessary to the establishment of their claim. Among other provisions it allows the purchase with cash of small tracts of forty acres for sites for mechanical, commercial or manufacturing purposes, after one year's occupancy thereof, and provides that all the United States reserved lands, within the lateral limits of railroads, shall be held at the double minimum price of \$2.50 per acre.

## Preposterous Claims of the Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Mr. Wilson, of Indiana, yesterday made a speech in support of his bill, declaring that the Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad Company has no right to a land and bond subsidy for an extension of its road from the present western terminus to the Union Pacific at the one hundredth meridian. He showed that this company has been for several years past trying to procure a recognition of its right to build about 250 miles of additional road and to receive on account thereof a land and bond subsidy of about \$9,000,000; that, notwithstanding

adverse decisions by Secretaries Browning and Cox and an adverse decision by Attorney General Akerman, the company is still pressing this demand, and that recently the Solicitor General has given an opinion in its favor. Mr. Wilson reviewed the statutes at considerable length, the briefs of the attorneys of the company filed in the departments and the opinion of the Solicitor General, and argued that the claim had no legal basis upon which to rest. In conclusion, he urged the House, in consideration of the fact that the vast amount involved would induce the company to continue to press its demand upon the President and the departments, to set it at rest by passing his bill.

## Proposed Revival of the Grant of Land to the Louisiana State Railroad.

By an act of Congress, approved June 3, 1856, public land to the amount of six sections to the mile was granted to the State of Louisiana to aid in the construction of a railroad from the Texas State line, via Greenwood, Shreveport and Monroe, in that State, to a point on the Mississippi River opposite Vicksburg, Miss. The length of the road when completed will be 190 miles. During the first five years of the ten years allowed by the act for the completion of the road ninety-four miles, or about one-half of the road, was constructed. The late civil war then intervened, during which time the road as far as built was almost completely destroyed by the military forces of the United States and of the Confederate States. Since the war that portion of the road completed prior to the war has been reconstructed and restocked. An official letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, recently transmitted to Congress, shows that more than two-thirds of the land granted by the original act lies opposite the uncompleted one-half of the road, there being comparatively a small amount of public land opposite the completed one-half of the road. The completion of this road will give to the entire system of railroads east of the Mississippi River a direct connection with the railroads of Texas and the Texas and Pacific Railroad, of which this is the direct eastern prolongation. The House Committee on Public Lands therefore recommend the passage of the bill reviving the grant of lands heretofore made. The grant covered 353,231 acres. The lands which have not reverted comprise 100,062 acres, leaving 253,169 acres which have reverted to the United States, and which the bill lately reported by the House Committee on Public Lands would again confer upon the owners of the road.

## Determined Popular Opposition to the Change of Officials in Colorado Territory.

When the nominations of McCook and Jenkins came up for confirmation as Governor and Secretary of Colorado Territory they will meet with severe opposition. The Delegate from the Territory openly states that the removal of the present officials—who are entirely satisfactory to his constituents—will be almost a fatal blow to the republicanism in Colorado, on account of the great dissatisfaction which it creates. The only reason which the Delegate gives for his opinion is that the federal officials in that Territory have been engaged in land stealing operations, and he has determined, when this was brought to his attention, to make a clean sweep of all the Territorial officials and replace them with a new set. He intimated also that he thought it was about time to make a change throughout all the Territories. Governor McCook was appointed through the personal friendship of the President, Secretary Jenkins at the request of Messrs. Senor and Platt, of Virginia, and Mr. Searight, the Surveyor General, at that of Senator Cameron. Who are to be registered and deliver of the Land Office are not yet designated, but the best belief is in a few days. It is understood that General Butler is pressing a friend for the position of United States Marshal, at present filled by a protégé of Senator Morton.

## The Life-Saving Service—Medals for Meritorious Bravery.

The report of the Board appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of life-saving stations, &c., states that for most points on the Pacific coast and the lakes there are necessary only lifeboats, constructed on the English system, with houses of sufficient capacity to contain the boat on its carriage, and such apparatus as particular localities may require. The exceptions are a few localities remote from habitations, where it may become necessary to afford accommodation for certain periods to the crews attached to the boats, and at points where the chief signal officers of the army may desire to connect signal stations with the life-saving service. At the latter places the houses would only require sufficient accommodation for the observers. It is proposed that the lifeboat stations should in general be manned by volunteer crews, as the occurrence of disasters at the points named for them are not so frequent as to warrant the employment of long periods of regular crews. To insure efficiency in the volunteer crews in these cases compensation might be paid for services rendered at each wreck, and a system of rewards, in the shape of medals of honor, to be bestowed upon those making unusually meritorious efforts, might be adopted. No stations are recommended for the Gulf coast. The soundings here are so regular, and the shoal water extends so evenly and gradually for such long distances into the Gulf, that the sea is rarely, if ever, high enough to break up stranded vessels, and the crews are never in imminent danger, except during heavy hurricanes, when a lifeboat or other apparatus would be of no use. Serious disasters are, perhaps, as frequent at Galveston Bay as upon any portion of this coast; but an able revenue steamer, such as it is understood is to be stationed there in the spring, can render much more efficient aid in saving life and property than can be done with the apparatus at a life-saving station.

## Bill for Preventing Collisions and Loss of Life at Sea—Its Commendable Points.

The bill introduced in the House by Mr. Houghton, of California, providing for classing vessels as to seaworthiness and for advisory rules regarding building vessels attracts attention and commands favor. Letters asking copies of the bill are being secured by the members from commercial and shipbuilding districts. A board of inspectors is organized under the bill, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, who also is to supervise and approve the rules. Steam vessels must have life rafts, life preservers, signal lights and other requisites to protect life. No fines or penalties are imposed. Ocean-going steam vessels, before clearance, must exhibit to the collector a certificate from the inspectors that the necessary signal lights, life rafts, life preservers and appliances are on board, and that the vessel is in all respects seaworthy; otherwise clearance is refused. Serious penalties are imposed upon the mails do not come under the provisions of the bill. If the Ville du Havre, it is asserted, had come under the provisions of such a bill either the collision would have been avoided or, if it did occur, every person would have been saved. Lifeboats are weighty and require cool seamanship to launch and man, while lifeboats are light, can be got overboard right side up by anybody, and then will carry safely more persons than lifeboats. The Ville du Havre, like all steamships, was sadly deficient in life saving appliances. It is the duty of Congress, it is claimed, to legislate that citizens going to Europe may be safe when in transit. Foreign shipowners will not make the necessary provisions to this end, then these ships will not be permitted to take their people on board at the risk of drowning them. Modern signal lights afford particular safeguards as to collisions. These can be seen miles away at sea even in thick weather. Steamships now will not carry such lights, alleging them to be too expensive to keep in operation. Full passenger rates, however, are charged, lights or no lights, and being paid in advance, the vessel owner has the money, even though the passengers are all drawn. Besides this, every owner, if he desire, can have his vessel classed by the inspectors. The rule for this will be uniform. By this means a national standard as to character and seaworthiness will be established. The inspectors are paid out of the fees alone, and these are regulated by the Treasury Department; so there are no salaries officers under the bill. As it leaves shipowners to avail themselves or not of its provisions, no one can complain that their interests are injuriously

affected by the provisions. As it protects life absolutely and positively by preventing vessels sailing away with people on board to be drowned, it appeals to the favor of every one; and as it takes no money out of the Treasury, but guards the Treasury, by preventing rebates in duties on damaged goods imported, unless the extent of the damage is certified to, it recommends itself to all. The inspectors are subject to imprisonment and fine for fraudulently or ignorantly reporting. It is hoped Congress will make Mr. Houghton's bill a law at once, if for no other reason than to stop the waste of valuable lives, as, at late, on European-going steam vessels. Fines and penalties will not do this, but such a law will.

## A State Dinner to Mr. Cushing.

General Cushing has been making a party visit to "Glebe land," his country seat, in Virginia, about five miles from the capital, where he will leave his valuable law library. On Monday evening he is to be entertained at dinner by Secretary Fish, who has invited a party of his friends to meet him. He is in excellent health.

## Pensions for the Mexican Veterans.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions has appointed a sub-committee of five to consider the question of giving pensions to the soldiers of the Mexican war. It is believed the committee will report such a bill with great unanimity.

## The Abolition of the Office of Brigadier of the Marines.

The marine officers are in trouble, as the Senate amendment to the Naval Appropriation bill not only abolishes the office of brigadier general of the Marine Corps after the death of General Zeilin, but also the office of colonel commandant. If this is done the Marine Corps will have to be under the command of a colonel, who can, on no side-camp to draw force, and who will not be able to sustain the hospitalities of headquarters with his pay.

## The Story About Eight Newspaper Correspondents and the Centennial Commission.

Joseph R. Hawley, President of the Centennial Commission, to-night made public the letter of A. J. Goshorn, Director General of the commission, in explanation of the charge recently made that eight correspondents, representing leading newspapers, had offered for compensation to lobby an appropriation bill in behalf of the Exhibition through Congress. He says that the announcement greatly exaggerated the facts, and that nothing had been said in Congress, but was regarded as an advertising scheme, considered by the commission purely on its merits and rejected after due deliberation.

## Recognition of a Vice Consul.

The President has recognized Henry C. Adams as Vice Consul of Brazil at Boston.

## The Prospective and the Confederate Elements in the Composition of Congress.

Your correspondent's attention was invited during a late conversation with a prominent man in public life, and as a marked feature of Mr. Cushing's unsolicited race for the Chief Justiceship, to the manifest revival of a prospective spirit in Congress toward those who took the wrong side in the late war, as well as those who were tardy in cutting loose from the leaders of secession before the outbreak of hostilities. This gentleman takes the ground that, though the opposition to Mr. Cushing's nomination began and was protracted in baseness and treachery, it was the letter to Jefferson Davis that secured his actual overthrow, by calling up a bitter feeling of partisanship, or affording a pretext for it, on the part of Senators who otherwise would have voluntarily, for confirmation, and so have made Mr. Cushing the Chief Justice. In the course of the same interview reference was made to the ill-concealed disfavor with which the Confederate delegation in Congress are looked upon by their fellow members of the more radical type, and to the stage whisperings in Congressional circles of calamity to the nation, the party, and the freedom, if the rebel army element in Congress is to go on increasing in the way it threatens to do. Two remarks of Senator Gordon in his late speech on reduction of salaries were mentioned as having been the theme of much private comment about the Capitol: the first, his complaint that a late adherent of the Confederacy in Congress was in danger of having his rebellion record thrown into his face as often as he took issue in matters of public policy with any whose loyalty was of the iron-clad sort; and the other, that if the settlement of the war had been left to the men who confronted each other on the battle field for four years of the country, the country would have been spared the misfortunes that have since overtaken the South. These two chance remarks have been applied to the composition of the present Congress, wherein are thirty members, in both houses, with a rebellion record available for use against their present fealty whenever it shall so please the iron-clad members to stop their mouths or break the force of their arguments against pending legislation, while the thirty are confronted by sixty-nine of the men whom Senator Gordon believes could have made an honorable and prosperous restoration of the Union at Appomattox Court House. It is not to be denied, however, that while the rebel army element has given a stronger tone to the Congress, it has also been largely replaced by men who took no direct part in the war, and this very fact is suggested as a partial explanation of the reappearance of the old spirit of proscription that immediately followed the war, and was first renewed when Andrew Johnson's rupture with his party set the North and South at variance again. It is manifest, however, that the President has no share in the smoldering hostility in Congress to the present results of reconstruction, and is, from all appearances, better pleased with the advent of real representatives of the Southern people, whatever their politics, than with the grinding out of the carpet baggers, for whom this present administration has no further use nor affection. The conservative tendencies lately attributed to the President are not much regarded by the better informed class of politicians, who discern clearer evidences of a tendency among the radicals to get up another rallying cry of danger to the constitutional amendments and the results of the war for service in the next Presidential campaign. It is an opinion very freely expressed here, in quarters entitled to a free hearing, that the republican party, as now constituted, will have nothing on which to go before the country in 1876, except a third term for Grant, or a fresh crusade against "lost cause."

The third term is an unlikely thing, the events of the present session, and as the alternative suggested may be the only one two years hence, and has been lately strengthened by indirect utterances in some parts of the South, it looks as if it were to be kept before the country against the day of need. Mention having been made herein of the number of late confederate officers in Congress it may be well to append their names and States. Alabama has Lieutenant Colonel John H. Caldwell, Major James H. Sloss and Captains Charles Hays and Charles Pelham. Senator Goldthwaite was also Adjutant General of the State during the war. Georgia has Major General John B. Gordon and Pierce M. Young, Brigadier General Philip Cook, Colonel Hiram P. Bell, Lieutenant Colonel Morgan Rawls and James H. Blount and Major R. H. T. Whitley, the latter a republican. Mississippi has Brigadier General James L. Alcorn and Colonel L. C. Lamar. Missouri has Brigadier General John B. Clark and Major Robert A. Hatcher. North Carolina has Major General Matthew W. Ransom, Brigadier General Robert B. Vance, who lately declared himself on the floor of the House ready for another rebellion, and Colonels James M. Leach, Alfred M. Waddell and William M. Robbins. Tennessee has Lieutenant Colonel W. C. Whitworth, Colonel John B. Atkins. Texas has Colonel DeWitt C. Giddings, Roger C. Mills, Major Asa S. White and privates W. S. Herndon and W. P. McLean. Virginia has Brigadier General Eppa H. Hunt and Major Thomas Whitehead. Mr. James B. Sener, a republican representative from the Fredericksburg district in this State, also campaigned with the Confederate Army as correspondent of the South-At Associated Press.

## "IN THE DAYS OF MY YOUTH."

The number of female novelists is so large that it sometimes seems as though the reading world had a decided preference for the mode in which the gentler sex is fond of describing human life and character. Between George Eliot and Annie Thomas in England, and Miss Alcott and Mrs. Southworth in the United States, the literary space is wide, but it is abundantly inhabited. For the present we confine ourselves to English ground, and we are bound to say that it has yielded, among female novelists, one extraordinary and several admirable specimens. It is scarcely necessary to add that under the first head comes the author of "Middlemarch," or that under the second are to be ranked Miss Mulock, Mrs. Oliphant, the author of "Doctor Jacob," Mrs. Edwards and possibly one or two others. We have omitted mention of Mrs. Henry Wood and Miss Braddon, not because they are without merit, but because the conditions to which they have deemed it expedient to submit have forced upon them an extraordinary amount of labor and prevented their doing much that is thoroughly good. Their strength has become dissipated over thirty novels instead of being concentrated upon three. Miss Amelia B. Edwards, whose present volume we propose to discuss, has either been more wise or has been placed amid happier conditions which did not necessitate such unhealthy stimulus. She has written much more slowly than the two prolific novelists to whom we have just referred, but her average is much better than theirs, and her novels deserve a higher rank as works of literary art. "In the Days of My Youth" is a novel written autobiographically, and describes the adventures and experiences of a young man, who, when scarcely more than a boy, is thrown alone amid the pleasures and temptations of Parisian life. The subject is a tempting one, though perhaps somewhat strange for a woman to adopt. Any equivocation, however, that it might possess is removed by the delicacy of the author's treatment—a delicacy that is full of womanliness. Of course it is impossible to believe that Miss Edwards has obtained all her information at first hand. The average healthy mind, with perhaps a tinge of vulgarity running through it, accepts without hesitation anecdotal matter representing Mme. Dudevant wearing male costume during her early literary life, and gathering in that guise the observations of which she subsequently made such powerful use in her masculine creations. But what the average mind accepts as something that was to have been expected in a French woman, and particularly in a French authoress, it shrinks from when an English nationality is substituted. In sympathy with the common idea, therefore, we should be forced into the belief that certain scenes and experiences in Miss Edwards' novel, as, for instance, the relations of Basil Arbluthnot to Josephine, his wife, to her sister, the young Aubrey Boucher, his familiarity with the Bohemian members of the Society of Les Chicards, and with numerous little ins and outs of Parisian life, were revealed to Miss Edwards rather through the narrations of others than from personal inspection. Mrs. Gaskell once questioned Charlotte Brontë as to her method of going to work when, in the course of constructing a novel, she found it necessary to describe something she had never seen or experienced, and which present circumstances forbade her from seeing or experiencing. Miss Brontë replied that she thought the matter out until an appropriate representation of the scene or a representation that seemed to her to be appropriate, was evolved. The explanation had to be satisfactory; for it was the only one Miss Brontë had to give. But it does not seem to account for the truthfulness of her descriptions of certain characters and phases of feeling which nothing in her life intimates had come within her personal experience, except upon the principle that consciousness contains the raw material for literary and artistic manufacture, and that people of exceptional temperament have a wonderful gift of getting at the right thing through the process of introspection. We do not know whether Miss Edwards is a very sane man like this to offer. She appears to be very much at home with places with which few women have much respect for conventionalisms, and that fastidious circumspection which it entails, would confess familiarity, and she is perfectly unembarrassed with one or two classes of people who dwell outside the circle of propriety and bring with them a flavor that is unmistakably Bohemian. Yet there is not a word or an intimation in her book which chastity itself might not read, and Miss Edwards has performed the difficult task of reflecting much of the seasons and something of the sensual side of Parisian life, without averting from the delicate standpoint of a very pure and refined woman would wish to be regarded as maintaining.

To come to the story, however, Basil Arbluthnot's father is a misanthropic widower, and leads the life of a reclusive physician in Saxony, an obscure English hamlet. In this home the boy is educated until he is about twenty, when he is sent to Paris to study medicine under Dr. Chéron, a distinguished surgeon. Previously to this, however, when about sixteen years of age, he has an experience, the bearing of which upon the story comes to light only in the last chapter. A French magician, named M. le Chevalier Armand Frodon, visits the Saxony hamlet, and gives a public performance in one of the rooms of the hotel. During the performance he borrows Basil's waistcoat to perform some trick with it, but suddenly succumbs to an illness from which he is very evidently suffering, and soon after expires, notwithstanding all that is done to save him. The watch is not found upon his person and remains undiscovered. At Paris Basil accidentally makes the acquaintance of Captain Oscar Dalrymple, many years older than himself. Captain Dalrymple takes a fancy to him, and gratifies that fancy by initiating him in Paris. This includes an acquaintanceship with fine ladies and grilles, actresses and artists, and the design of the author at this point appears to be to convince the reader that she knows Paris in its heights and depths quite as well as the most accomplished courtesier. We have picnic up the Seine, flirtations between grilles and *commis voyageurs*, a visit to the salons of Mme. Rachel and Mme. Sontag, *grog au vin* at the Society of Les Chicards, dinners at the Maison Dorée, evening parties in the Quartier Latin, an amour with a grille and an affair of the heart with a fashionable lady, all of them very cleverly described, and mingled with conversation that is generally smart and select—if it never rises into the region of purely intellectual wit or profound and original thought it never sinks into that of empty and commonplace. Miss Edwards does not lead in fiction. She possesses none of those grand structural capacities which are included in the genius of the great novel writer. Her works are not exponents of the profound and sacred experiences of the heart. Her treatment of such experiences indicates rather a thorough acquaintance with the manner in which they are handled by masters than the capability of handling them in that manner herself. She is familiar with what may be called the stage business of novel-making and in performing the work which such knowledge entails. She glosses over the conventionalism of the process with a neatness, grace and brilliancy that are most perceptible in the conversation of her characters, and that are very acceptable in these days of slipshod colloquy. We shall not inquire too closely into the moralities of the position of *cautivité servente*. It is enough to say that in her reference to them Miss Edwards has preserved the pure and chivalrous aspect which, she says, a boy's first love for a beautiful woman, much older than himself, is apt to wear. We are not inclined to place a great deal of confidence in the purity of these devotions; but Miss Edwards writes poetically about them, and the poeticalness has a delicacy of tint that few men writing on the same subject would be likely to bestow. To outline our present of the hero, however, the new friends and adventures and the various and widely contrasting circumstances are open to him do not perceptibly advance the plot of the story, and in the endeavor to discover a thread the suggestion again rises that Miss Edwards wrote "In the Days of My Youth" less for the sake of telling an interesting tale, governed by

human emotions, than to show how many smart things she could put into the mouths of people who have evidently seen so much of this world as not to have had leisure to bestow much thought on the next. In due time, however, Horace Durell, freemason makes her appearance and the real motive of the story is felt. Miss Durell is a teacher of languages, and resides alone in an apartment in a large double house inhabited by thirty other tenants in the Cité Bergère. The course of the true love that springs up between her and Basil Arbluthnot is very prettily and delicately described. The interest is deepened by the mystery which overhangs Miss Durell's surroundings and pursuits. The mystery culminates in her stealing away from Paris during a temporary absence of Basil and leaving a note, in which she informs him that duties more sacred than marriage, sterner than love and imperative as fate call her away. How the lovers come together again, how Horace is discovered to be the daughter of M. le Chevalier Armand Frodon, and how, finally, the lost watch of Basil's youth, together with patents of nobility belonging to the poor conjurer, are found hidden away among moth and rust, we will not stop to tell. The book is worth being well received because its description of Parisian life, so far as they go are accurate and vivid; because, with one or two exceptions (as, for instance, the implied apotheosis of Dalrymple, who kills a man whom he proposes to combat), no vicious bias is perceptible; and because shrewd reflections frequently alternate with bright repartees. These are not great qualities, but they are qualities worth recognizing when so much literary work is loose and vain.

"In the Days of My Youth," by Amelia B. Edwards. Published by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

## LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

THE GRANGERS' MOVEMENT has found a historian in Mr. Jonathan Periam, editor of the *Western Rural*, whose "History of the Origin, Aims and Progress of the Farmers' Movement, the Transportation Question," &c., will soon appear from the subscription press of E. Hannaford & Co., Cincinnati.

MR. ROBERT BROWNING has still another poem in press, which, it is said, will be a Greek play in a modern dress.

THE DRAMATIC WORKS of Thomas Heywood will shortly be published in six volumes, uniform with the works of Chapman and Dekker, which appeared last year in London. This publication will complete the round of modern editions of all the Elizabethan poets belonging to the Shakespearean circle.

SKENAI CASTELLAR'S "Life of Byron" is now being translated for speedy publication in English by Mrs. Arnold, of London.

SCOTLAND'S GARDENS, monasteries and conventual and collegiate churches are to be commemorated in a volume entitled "Scoti-Monasteria," by Rev. McKendrick E. C. Walcott, an able archaeological writer.

THE HAKA, a Stamboul journal with a large circulation among the Turks, has just been suppressed by order of the Turkish government for an article on the recent events in Arabia.

ANOTHER HISTORY OF JESUS has been translated from the German of Dr. Theodore Keim and published in London. The book is thoroughly German in style, exhibiting the profound learning, wide generalization, scepticism as to facts and powers of analysis belonging to the greatest German critics. The translation is bad.

THE SECOND and concluding volume of Dr. Moffat's work on the "Comparative History of Religions" is ready for publication at Dodd & Mead's.

MR. ROBERT MONTGOMERY, whom Macaulay immortalized as "Satan Montgomery," was the Martin P. Tupper of five and twenty years ago. Edition followed edition of his works. Whether he wrote of the Delly, of woman or of the devil, his long and wearisome poems commanded a great sale, although they were laughed at in the literary world.

THE BEST RECENT BOOK on Italian art is the "Cyclopedia of Art Guide to Painting in Italy," by Dr. Bureshardt, just published by Murray. It is a trustworthy summary of the latest researches on the authorship and locality of all the pictures in Italy.

M. TAINE has selected an American—Mr. John Durand—to translate the work on the French Revolution which he is writing.

THE MOST ENTERTAINING sportsman's book lately published is "Mountain, Meadow and Mere," by G. Christopher Davies, just issued in London. It is not like Gordon Cumming's monotonous records of butchery, but is pervaded with the fine aroma of English and Welsh country life, where the wren, the bluebird, the skylark and the skylark are found in their haunts. The author likes best filling his bag in rough walking through picturesque scenery, or following wild fowl and water fowl into their lonely haunts.

THE PUBLICATION of the Simancas records, relating to England and Spain, has reached the third volume.

AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION to revise the copyright treaties between France and England was recently held at Paris. The French agents complained bitterly of the "adaptations" from French dramas for the English stage, made under the existing laws, through which all the profits of representation are lost to the French author. The system of reparation at Stationers' Hall is also very defective. It will be abandoned by Great Britain, and a more liberal treaty of copyright will be made.

THE LONDON ACADEMY, a literary weekly of twenty pages, will, it is thought, a formidable rival of the *Athenaeum*.

A MEMOIR of the late Thomas Ewing, by his daughter, the wife of General W. T. Sherman, is said to be in progress.

THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY will publish, in 1874, the "Cursor Mundi," also Palladius on "Husbandrie," English, and "The Gest Historiale of the Destruction of Troy."

THE LONDON ACADEMY for January 3, the first number under the new régime, which makes it a weekly review of literature, science and art, is full of good things.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN says of his great countryman, Thomas Carlyle, that his influence has been thoroughly noxious, and that he has supported every kind of tyranny and three great lies—the lie of the South, the lie of Jamaica and the lie of the German war.

AN ENGLISH GRAMMAR appears to be needed in the West Virginia Legislature, which lately passed an act "to prevent the owners of hogs from running at large."

THE VICTORIA MAGAZINE says that Germany stands lower in civilization than any European country except Turkey; for in no other country does woman occupy so ignominious and servile a position. In England women are treated with respect; in France and America they are worshipped; in Germany they are simply utilized.

PROFESSOR MOMMSEN is about removing from the Berlin University to that of Leipzig, which is now incomparably the best equipped and attended of all German universities. MommSEN's lectures on the institutions and policy of ancient Rome will draw still more students.

ELIUS BURRITT, the learned blacksmith, has a new book in press entitled "Social Walks and Talks with Young Students Among the Languages."

GEORGE MACDONALD's new novel will be